



COLUMBUS CITY COUNCIL Agenda Highlights for February 23, 2009

For More Information:

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SEIZURE FUNDS HELP BUY NEW POLICE EQUIPMENT: Thanks to the hard work of the men and women of the Columbus Division of Police, they will soon have new tools to use while protecting Columbus residents. *Ordinance 0172-2009*, sponsored by Public Safety Committee Chair [Andrew J. Ginther](#), authorizes the Public Safety Department to spend \$423,132 from the Law Enforcement Contraband Seizure Fund. The money in the fund will be used to purchase a variety of police-related items including crime lab equipment, police canine, helicopter insurance, and law enforcement supplies. Funds received from seized and forfeited property must be used solely for law enforcement purposes.

MILLER PROMOTING WORKPLACE SAFETY: Administration Committee Chair [A. Troy Miller](#) is sponsoring legislation that will provide industrial hygiene and safety services to city employees in an efficient and cost effective manner. *Ordinance 0189-2009* will authorize the city to enter into a \$100,000 contract to provide industrial hygiene services and safety program assistance to all divisions. These services have contributed significantly to the city's ability to reduce its workplace injury claims and the hours lost as a result of injuries.

NEIGHBORHOOD STABILIZATION PROGRAM: In response to the housing mortgage crisis, the city of Columbus has been awarded \$22,845,495 of Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) grant funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Health, Housing & Human Services Committee Chair [Charleta B. Tavares](#) is sponsoring *ordinance 0234-2009*, which will authorize the expenditure of \$3,000,000 of the funds to be used for the purchase of foreclosed or abandoned properties, redevelopment, rehabilitation or demolition of these properties to help stabilize neighborhoods and stem the decline of house values of neighboring homes.

ENERGIZED BY "GREEN" ELECTRICITY: Utilities Committee Chair [Eileen Y. Paley](#) is sponsoring legislation that will allow the city to purchase environmentally-friendly electrical energy generated from a gas-fueled electric power station at the model landfill on Jackson Pike. *Ordinance 0096-2009* will authorize the city to modify contract costs in the amount of \$436,810 to continue receiving this unique source of energy which is generated from landfill gas. The existing contract with Bio-Energy is in effect until 2015.

KEEPING ROADWAYS SAFE: The Department of Public Service, Division of Planning and Operations is responsible for maintaining the guardrails and fences along the city's roadways. Public Service & Transportation Committee Chair [Hearcel F. Craig](#) is sponsoring *Ordinance 0091-2009* that will allow the city to enter into an \$189,656.80 contract to begin repairing accident-damaged locations as well as replace deteriorating structures and install new structures. The Guardrail and Fence Repair 2009 Project will help eliminate existing dangerous conditions to promote motorist and pedestrian safety.

TYSON SUPPORTING SENIORS: Recreation and Parks Committee Chair [Priscilla R. Tyson](#) is sponsoring legislation that will allow the city to purchase new fitness equipment and partner with health and wellness organizations to educate senior citizens on how to maintain healthy lifestyles. *Ordinance 0219-2009* will authorize the city to accept and appropriate an \$11,129 grant to support the 2009 50+ fitness programs at the various Multi-generational Adult Program (MAP) Centers during 2009. MAP centers offer recreational, social, educational, and special-event programs and activities to seniors in the community.



COUNCIL PRESIDENT PROMOTING COLUMBUS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ANNUAL MEETING: The Columbus Chamber leads economic growth and development in the Columbus Region. Council President [Michael C. Mentel](#) is encouraging residents and business leaders to attend the Chamber's Annual Meeting on Tuesday, February 24, 2009 from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. at the Greater Columbus Convention Center Grand Ballroom. The meeting will provide details about the effect of the economy on local business and economic development, discuss strategies to support local businesses through these times, and highlight the region's success stories. Keynote speaker Andrew Levine, President of Development Counsellors International, will provide his perspective on Columbus' story, based on reactions from CEOs and journalists. For more information visit the [Chamber web site](#).